

Congregational Care Ministry Goals and Start Up System Organizational Meeting

GOALS

- To offer an organized effort for visitation, mail correspondence and phone visits
- To share with the congregation the needs and prayer concerns of those unable to be with us on Sunday
- To extend the hand of Jesus to someone in need, whether requested by church or the Spirit led direction of our circumstance
- To grow this ministry to serve Jesus' purpose, which may change and shift over time

The Congregational Care Ministry is based on a faithful need for outreach to shut in members and extended family and friends of our members on an as-needed basis. The startup system is intended to make this outreach ministry an intentional and organized effort to reach as many people as is possible.

Congregational Care Ministers in the Penns Valley Charge are intended to serve as **visitation and conversation ministers**; offering a listening ear, encouragement, a connection between the care receiver and the congregation and pastor, and to serve as a “crisis first responder” offering resources for professional assistance when the situation requires. (We cannot force someone to seek professional help. But we can offer them their families the resources and encourage them to act on them.)

We may not serve as professional counselors unless trained, licensed and approved by the church.

START UP SYSTEM

Know the resources and paperwork and where they will be stored

See the central CCM calendar for the coming year

Gather a list of shut ins, people we haven’t seen in a while, folks we know could use the company, card, phone call or visit by being attentive to Joys and Concerns and conversations on Sundays, act as led.

Determine how to respond to Spirit led connection for those on your list that weigh on your heart:

- **You** will decide how you feel led to reach out; card with a handwritten note and invitation to call you, phone call, visit (use a lanyard when visiting someone with memory issues)
- **You** will determine when you will be reaching out and indicate a date or week on the calendar for the pastor’s record
- **You** will update via the Personal Care Record and Notes form and file as soon as possible
- If you set up a follow up date, update the calendar with that information

CONTACT THE PASTOR: If there is anything you feel she needs to know and if you refer anyone in health or mental crisis to the appropriate resources, and when you have a question or concern about a situation.

For forms online, go to <http://pennsvalleyparish.info/congregational-care-ministry/>